MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): Will the Government consider the desirability of having on the committee a member of the 'backward communities' in places where the students from the 'backward communities' are large in number?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): That will be considered. But under the present constitution as defined in the G. O., it is not possible to do that. A modification of the G. O. is necessary.

MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): Is it impossible to modify the G. O.?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): No, it is quite possible. The suggestion of the Member will be considered.

Departmental Orders re Grant of Fee Concessions.

211. **MR. N. KUMARAN** (*Nominated*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Education Department has issued circular orders to the Headmasters of departmental English Schools and the Managers of recognised schools asking them not to receive fresh applications for fee concessions from students who were already in the schools in the previous year?

(*b*) If the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, will the Government be pleased to state whether it has the sanction of the Government?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The circular was issued in anticipation of Government sanction. When the matter was reported to Government, they issued orders to the effect that applications from students who were already in the schools but who were considered ineligible for scholarship in the previous year should be entertained, provided such applications show altered conditions in the circumstances of the pupils financially.

Discontent among Employès in the Stamp Manufactory.

212. **MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI** (*Chirayinkil*): (1) Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they are aware of the serious discontent that prevails among the employès of the Stamp Manufactory; and

(*b*) whether the employès in the Stamp Manufactory have put in memorials to the Government through the Superintendent of the Stamp Manufactory and whether these memorials have been duly forwarded to the Government?

(2) If the answer to part (1) (*b*) is in the affirmative, will the Government be pleased to state what action they have taken upon them? And if the answer is in the negative, will the Government be pleased to state the reasons for the same?

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*): (1) (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

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(*b*) Two of the subordinates who were careless in handling a machine and two others who were punished for indifference to work sent petitions by Anchal addressed to the Dewan through the Superintendent, Stamp Manufactory. These were not forwarded by the Superintendent; but the petitioners were told by him that they should prefer appeals in the first instance to the controlling officer and that second appeals could be made to Government only after the decision of the controlling officer is given. No further petitions have been received by the Superintendent.

(2) No memorials have been received by the Government through the Superintendent, Stamp Manufactory. Government hold that the first appeal should be made to the controlling officer.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): With regard to the answer to part (*a*) of the question, may I know whether the subordinates of the Stamp Manufactory did memorialise the Government through the Superintendent of the Stamp Manufactory?

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*): They never memorialised through the Superintendent.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Did they memorialise at all?

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*): They have sent in petitions direct to Her Highness the Maha Rani Regent and the Dewan of Travancore.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): I want to know whether the Government have received a memorial from the subordinates of the Stamp Manufactory?

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*): Not in a constitutional form.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: You want an answer to the question whether they memorialised through the Superintendent. The Official Member replies that they have not done so.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I call the attention of the Member to question No. 213?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: That question has not yet been taken up.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): In that answer the Government admit that there is discontent and that the Government are enquiring into the complaints. In this question the Government say in reply to part (1) (*a*) that they are not aware of any discontent.

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*): The petitions sent to the Government will have to be enquired into as they contain allegations.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): I want to know whether there are allegations against the Superintendent.

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*): There may be allegations. The answer is there.

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